Powerloom Service Centres

4546. SHRI MATANG SINH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Powerloom Service Centres functioning in U.P. and Haryana at present ;

(b) the number of powerloom weavers who were imparted practical training in those States during the last three years : and

(c) whether any subsidy and loan was offered for setting up of powerlooms and of so, the details thereof and the number of looms installed in those States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The locations of the Powerloom Service Centres functioning in Uttar Pradesh are:

1. Maunath Bhaujan
2. Tanda
3. Meerut
4. Kanpur
5. Jalalpur

The location of the Powerloom Service Centre functioning in Haryana is at Panipat.

(b) The number of powerloom weavers imparted practical training during the last three years are 190 in respect of Haryana and 876 in respect of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Ministry of Textiles does not have any scheme for providing subsidy or loan for setting up powerlooms. The number of looms installed in Haryana on 31-12-93 was 9945.

The number of looms installed in Uttar Pradesh as on 31-12-93 was 65,366.

Hike in Price of Hosiery Yarns

4547. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been steep hike in the prices of hosiery yarn in recent weeks and if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from small scale hosiery units, seeking Government's intervention for maintaining the price level to February' 94 level;

(c) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect of this price-hike in the diminishing export performance of the hosiery units to the detriment of the national exchequer ; and

(d) whether Government would wake upto the situation and discipline the mills sector by rolling back the prices to February, 1994 level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The prices of hosiery yarn have increased due to increase in price of raw cotton and other inputs.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government have taken a number of steps to check prices of cotton and cotton yarn :—

(i) Duty free import of five lakh bales of cotton has been pemitted.

(ii) Import at concessional duty of 30,000 MT of Viscose Staple Fibre has been permitted.

(iii) The RBI has imposed a selective credit control of cotton trading.

(iv) The Cotton Control Order has been amended to provide for prescription of ceilings on stocks of cotton and the Textile Commissioner has started inspection of stock holdings.

(v) The Textile Commissioner has ordered extensive inspection of pressing units to check on their holdings and adherence to norms.

(vi) Advance licence holders have been instructed to import cotton in advance before they can be allowed to export yarn.

(vii) The Textile Commissioner has started enforcing rigorously the 'Hank Yarn Obligation Order'.

(viii) The Mill owners have agreed to supply ten million kgs. of hank yarn at subsidised prices.